

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 PC-01
SY-05 A-01 OPR-02 OC-06 CCO-00 ACDA-07 SCS-03
SCA-01 DHA-02 MC-02 /120 W
-----301256Z 080819 /44

O 301130Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3344
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER//ECJ4/7 IMMEDIATE
SECDEF WASH DC IMMEDIATE
DIA WASH DC IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI IMMEDIATE
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 KINSHASA 4106

PASS PEACE CORPS
USIA FOR IAA, IOP

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, AEMR, CG, AO
SUBJECT: SHABA INVASION: SITREP 48 (APRIL 30, 1977)

1. FOLLOWING IS THE 48TH MISSION WIDE SURVEY INCLUDING REPORTS
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FROM LUBUMBASHI.

MILITARY SITUATION AS OF 291700Z APRIL 77.

NOTE: ALL GEOGRAPHIC REFERENCES ARE TAKEN FROM JOINT OPERATIONS
GRAPHIC SERIES 1501 MAPS.

2. HOSTILE FORCES:

A. ACCORDING TO FURTHER INFORMATION DEVELOPED THROUGH INTERROGATION OF THE POW'S AND SURRENDERED HOSTILE OFFICER, THERE ARE 5 BATTALIONS FACING FRIENDLY FORCES IN SHABA. FOUR OF THESE BATTALIONS ARE SEASONED TROOPS; THE FIFTH IS COMPOSED OF RECRUITS WITH ONLY 6-12 MONTHS OF SERVICE. THE IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION OF THESE BATTALIONS IS HELD BY DDN TO BE: 1ST BATTALION COMMANDED BY CAPTAIN PIKOSO IN THE VICINITY OF KASANGINGA (1025X/2343E); 2ND BATTALION COMMANDED BY LTC KASONGO AT KASAJI (1022S/2328E); 3RD BATTALION WHOSE COMMANDER'S "CODE-NAME" IS "BINTU" IS IN THE VICINITY OF KAFAKUMBA (0940S/2346E) WITH A COMPANY MINUS AT SAPEZA (0931S/2355E) AND A PLATOON EACH AT TSHIFUNGA (0941S/2357E) AND NGUNGU (0942S/2311E); 4TH BATTALION, COMMANDER UNKNOWN, VICINITY OF KAPANGA (0821S/2240E); 5TH BATTALION COMMANDER BY KILUBA (RANK UNKNOWN) BETWEEN KASAJI AND DILOLO (1028S/2228E). BOTH THE 1ST AND 2ND BATTALIONS HAVE A COMPANY DETACHED AND LOCATED AT KISENGE (1042S/2311E) ON LOGISTIC SUPPORT DUTIES.

B. DDN ASSESSES THE STRENGTH OF EACH HOSTILE BATTALION TO BE 440 MEN IN FOUR 110 MAN COMPANIES. EACH COMPANY HAS FOUR PLATOONS OF 25 MEN PLUS A RECON SECTION EQUIPPED WITH 7 BICYCLES. EACH COMPANY HAS ONE PORTABLE RADIO OF PORTUGUESE MANUFACTURE. THE POSITIONS OF THE 3RD BATTALION WERE ESTABLISHED BY AIR RECON.

C. A BELGIAN STAFF OFFICER, WHEN ASKED ABOUT ANY INFORMATION REGARDING HOSTILE REINFORCEMENTS, REPLIED THAT THERE WAS SOME INDICATION THAT A HOSTILE PLATOON MAY HAVE MOVED INTO THE SANDOA AREA POSSIBLE AT SAITALA (0942S/2259E), BUT THAT THIS WAS NOT CONFIRMED.

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3. ZAIRIAN FORCES:

A. THE FORWARD ELEMENT OF FAZ IS LOCATED AT APPROXIMATELY 1027S/2356E), OR SOME 5 KMS WEST OF MASOJI (1027S/2401E), AS OF 291000Z APR 77. TASK FORCE MUKOBO REMAINS IN THE LEAD WITH TASK FORCE BILOLO (AND COL IKUKU) SLIGHTLY TO THE REAR.

B. DDN NOW CARRIES THE COMBINED STRENGTH OF MUKOBO'S FAZ AND MOROCCAN TROOPS AS 1420 (48 OFFICERS, 91 NCO'S AND 1281 EM). FOR BILOLO'S TASK FORCE OF FAZ AND MOROCCANS, DDN SHOWS 1204 (52 OFFICERS, 69 NCO'S AND 1083 EM). SEE BELOW FOR FURTHER DETAILS ON MOROCCANS.

C. DDN HAS NOTHING ON ANY PARACHUTE OPERATION HAVING BEEN LAUNCHED AND ACCORDING TO A BELGIAN STAFF OFFICER, PRESS REPORT IS FALSE. ANOTHER BELGIAN OFFICER CHARACTERIZED THIS REPORT AND A PREVIOUS PRESS REPORT ABOUT MOROCCANS BEING WITH FAZ ELEMENTS NEAR KAPANGA AS BEING PART OF A DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGN INTENDED TO CONFUSE HOSTILE FORCES BY MAKING THEM BELIEVE THEIR POSITION IN SHABA WAS EVEN MORE THREATENED THAN ACTUALLY WAS THE CASE. HOSTILE FORCES HEAR SAME NEWS BROADCASTS AS OTHER PEOPLE; AND ALSO SUFFER FROM A LACK OF GOOD INFORMATION FROM THEIR OWN SOURCES.

(COMMENT: THERE IS PLAUSIBILITY TO THIS EXPLANATION FOR THESE PRESS REPORTS.)

D. DDN HAS NO NEW INFORMATION FROM THE FAZ ELEMENTS IN THE KASAI SECTOR.

E. THE VUADI BATTALION IS NOW LOCATED NEAR KWANDA (0934S/2409E) WITH ONE COMPANY ON THE EAST BANK OF THE LUBILASH RIVER. VUADI IS TO RECEIVE A PLATOON OF FOUR 81MM MORTARS WITH CREWS ON 30 APR THAT HAS JUST COMPLETED TRAINING UNDER A FRENCH OFFICER. COL DIKUTA, THE NEW COMMANDER OF KAMINA BASE, IS TO SET UP AN ADVANCE COMMAND POST AT KINDA (0918S/2504E) TO EXERCISE MORE DIRECT CONTROL OF EVENTS AROUND KAFAKUMBA. ADDITIONALLY, LTC VUADI IS TO BE REPLACED BY A MAJ ZUYA, WHO IS MORE LIKELY TO GO FORWARD RATHER THAN BACKWARD, ACCORDING TO A BELGIAN STAFF OFFICER. UPDATING EARLIER INFORMATION, THE BRIDGE AT KAFAKUMBA IS STILL INTACT.

F. THE M-16 MAGAZINE PROBLEM HAS BEEN RELIEVED SOMEWHAT BY TAKING AWAY THE M-16'S THAT HAD BEEN THE BASIC WEAPON OF THE
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KAMANYOLA DIV TROOPS REMAINING AT KITONA BASE IN BAS ZAIRE AND REARMING THEM WITH M-1 RIFLES. FRANCE IS WILLING TO SUPPLY M-1 AMMUNITION, ACCORDING TO A BELGIAN STAFF OFFICER, THUS ALLOWING THE 1900 "LIBERATED" M-16 MAGAZINES TO BE SENT TO SHABA. THE 1500 M-16 RIFLES INVOLVED IN THIS TRANSACTION WILL BE STORED TEMPORARILY UNTIL THE MAGAZINES BECOME AVAILABLE AS THEY ARE OF NO VALUE IN THEIR PRESENT FORM.

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SCA-01 DHA-02 MC-02 /120 W

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O 301130Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3345

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER//ECJ4/7 IMMEDIATE
SECDEF WASH DC IMMEDIATE
DIA WASH DC IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI IMMEDIATE
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 KINSHASA 4106

PASS PEACE CORPS
USIA FOR IAA, IOP

4. MOROCCAN FORCES: TWO DIR'S ARE NOW WITH TASK FORCE MUKOBO, THE 1ST AND 2ND DIR. THE 3RD DIR IS SCHEDULED TO REPLACE ONE OF THEM POSSIBLY ON 30 APR. THE 4TH DIR IS TO MOVE FORWARD FROM KOLWEZI TO MUTSHATSHA ON 30 APR, TO BRING A RESERVE FORCE UP TO A LOCATION BETTER SUITED TO THE LOCATION OF ACTION. EACH
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DIR HAS RECEIVED A PORTION OF THE SUPPORT ELEMENTS (MACHINE GUNS, ANTI-TANK, ETC.) AND NUMBER ABOUT 260 MEN STRONG. THIS HELPS EXPLAIN THE INCREASE IN TOTAL NUMBER OF TROOPS IN EACH OF THE TASK FORCE (MUKOBO WITH 2 DIR'S NOW; BILOLO WITH ONE).

5. AIR: NO TACAIR OR RECON SORTIE OR BOMB DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AVAILABLE AT DDN, HOWEVER, DUE TO HAVING RECENTLY MONITORED HOSTILE RADIO CONVERSATIONS REPORTING ATTACKS BY FAZA AIRCRAFT, A FULL REPORT ON AIR ACTIVITIES HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY DDN. THIS REPORT MAY BE AVAILABLE ON 30 APR.

6. DOMESTIC PRESS: KINSHASA MEDIA APRIL 30 DEVOID OF SHABA OPERATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS (NOTHING FURTHER ON ALLEGED PARACHUTE DROP, FOR EXAMPLE) WITH FOCUS INSTEAD ON AMIN VISIT AND HIS CHARGES THAT USSR SUPPLIED INVADERS' WAR MATERIAL AND THAT EAST GERMANY NOW WAS INVOLVED IN THE INVASION. "ELIMA" AND "SALONGO" ALSO REPRINT ANTI-SOVIET EDITORIALS FROM CAIRO AND PEKING. EDITORIALS IN BOTH NEWSPAPERS PRAISED RESULTS OF FRANCO-AFRICAN DAKAR MEETING WITH "ELIMA" CLAIMING THAT BY THE "SHAMEFUL DEBACLE OF THE ENEMY TROOPS,...ZAIRE AFFIRMS THE VICTOR OF A TRULY NON-ALIGNED AFRICA OVER HEGEMONY."

7. DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION:

A. KINSHASA:

(1) NZEZA LANDU, MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL RECENTLY ARRESTED WITH LUYEYE AND KENGOTOLO (SITREP 25) DIED AT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL THURSDAY, APRIL 28 AFTER HAVING BEEN TRANSFERRED THERE FROM PRISON WHERE HE WAS REPORTEDLY SUFFERING FROM HYPERTENSION (SITREP 43). NZEZA HAD BEEN A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE ABAKO PARTY AND A POWERFUL FIGURE IN BAS ZAIRE. HIS DEATH WAS ANNOUNCED IN FRONT PAGE ARTICLE OF KINSHASA DAILY "SALONGO" (APRIL 30) WITH PRESIDENTIAL CONDOLENCES FOR FAMILY.

(2) ACCORDING TO "ELIMA" (APRIL 30), URBAN COMMISSIONER SAKOMBI HAS POSTPONED THE MAMAS' MARCH OF SUPPORT FOR MOBUTU BY ONE WEEK. THE MARCH, ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR MAY 1 (SITREP 43), WILL BE HELD MAY 8 SO THAT MOBUTU, PRESENTLY IN SHABA, MAY ATTEND.
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B. LUBUMBASHI: EVERYTHING IS CLOSED AGAIN TODAY IN CELEBRATION OF LABOR DAY, THE FOURTH HOLIDAY IN LUBUMBASHI IN THE PAST TEN DAYS. LUBUMBASHI'S SHOPS HAD PREVIOUSLY CLOSED THEIR DOORS AT NOON ON APRIL 20 FOR THE MARCH OF SUPPORT, ON APRIL 25 TO WELCOME MOBUTU, AND ON APRIL 28 TO WELCOME IDI AMIN. NEEDLESS TO SAY, BUSINESS LEADERS HAVE NOT GREETED THE SLICED UP WORK WEEK ENTHUSIASTICALLY AND WILL BE HAPPY TO SEE THE PRESIDENT DEPART. ALTHOUGH SECURITY FORCES LINED THE ROAD FROM THE AIRPORT IN ANTICIPATION OF MOBUTU'S RETURN IN THE LATE AFTERNOON OF APRIL 29, THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY DID NOT ARRIVE.

C. KOLWEZI: PRESIDENT MOBUTU AND HIS UGANDAN GUEST PRESUMABLY SPENT APRIL 29 TOURING THE FRONT. BEFORE DEPARTING FOR KOLWEZI, THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO SHABA WAS EXPECTED TO END ON APRIL 30. THERE IS NO INFORMATION AS YET ABOUT POSSIBLE MODIFICATION IN THE PLANS.

D. KAMINA: NO CHANGE REPORTED.

8. AMERICAN CITIZEN SITUATION:

A. AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI REPORTS THAT ALTHOUGH NO CONTACT AGAIN ON APRIL 30 WITH MISSIONARIES IN KAPANGA, METHODISTS GREATLY CHEERED BY BBC REPORT FROM LUANDA SAYING MISSIONARIES FROM MUTSHATSHA, KASAJI AND DILOLO BROUGHT TO ANGOLA. EVEN THOUGH NO AMERICAN CITIZENS THOUGHT TO BE WITH GROUP, METHODISTS ASSUME SIMILAR TREATMENT FOR THEIR PEOPLE IN KAPANGA AND SANDOA.

B. UPDATE ON 140 AMERICAN CITIZENS IN SHABA:

KAPANGA	8 (MISSIONARIES)
SANDOA	2 (MISSIONARIES)
KOLWEZI	5 (4 MISSIONARIES; ONE GCM EMPLOYEE)
KAMINA	6 (MISSIONARIES)
SONGA	5 (MISSIONARIES)
MULUNGWISHI	5 (2 MISSIONARIES; 3 OTHERS)
LIKASI AREA	4 (PCV'S)
KALEMIE	2 (1 PCV, 1 BUSINESSMAN)
KONGOLO	2 (ANTHROPOLOGISTS)
LUBUMBASHI	101 (19 CONSULATE, 10 PCV'S, 23 MISSIONARIES,

49 OTHERS)

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Message Attributes

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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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SAS ID: 2694206
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHABA INVASION: SITREP 48 (APRIL 30, 1977)
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, AEMR, CG, AO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9f951c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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